

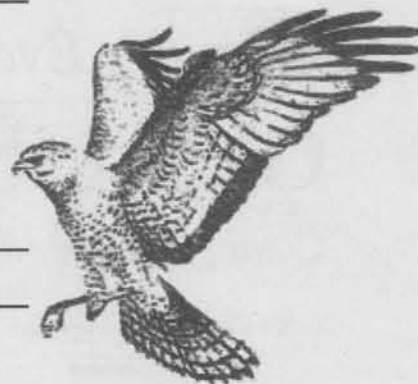


THE HAWK'S EYE

Volume XI Issue I

A new era in high school journalism begins now.

October 2006



Farewell to the Cafenasium!

And More Renovation News

By Srinivas Thangada
Staff Writer

Stop the presses! Tuesday, October 10 marked the re-opening of the newly renovated cafeteria. No longer will GHS students have to make the grueling trek across the glass hallway to the gym for their food. No longer will students have to put up with hammering and drilling in the midst of eating their high quality school lunches.

The new cafeteria includes a host of improvements over the old, first by tackling space issues adding plenty of extra square footage, which will allow for a greater seating capacity. And while at first glance, it seems smaller than the old space, a peek around the corner reveals the new addition with high ceilings and plenty of windows.

Actual food additions may be limited because of new state nutritional guidelines. One great new addition will be a deli bar like the one at Smith

Middle School. This will be located in the barred-off section of the cafe on the side closest to the new addition. Whether the deli bar will be self-serve or full-serve is unknown.



The general format of the cafeteria still uses both hexagonal and round tables to maximize seating capacity and traffic flow. In an improvement, the layout of the cafeteria and bathrooms has been modified,

and Assistant Principal Dr. Nocera hopes that this will allow students to use the bathroom without having to request passes. A hall monitor will be stationed in the vicinity, but

opening in CI. Overall, the student opinion is relief that a permanent lunchroom has returned.

In other renovation news: Quite a lot of activity is expected in the coming months. By the end of October, B hallway is expected to open, and the business and tech ed hallways will close at that time until the end of January. The old social studies and AgriScience areas are projected to close at the end of January and reopen in mid-May. Most renovated areas will be outfitted with the standard new technology, including a projector and JBL speakers. And by May, all rooms are expected to be air conditioned.

Also being integrated into the school is a new security camera system. Rather than the obnoxiously large camera housings at Gideon or Smith, the new cameras are contained in small glass domes. They will be well-hidden in an

effort to seem less intrusive. There are between 60 and 80 cameras in all, and they will record data 24/7 into a centralized system. Student opinions vary on the cameras—some think they're unnecessary or are even outright offended by their presence.

According to Dr. Nocera, the new classroom renovations and expanded facilities will offer new possibilities for courses and will hopefully increase school spirit and pride. He's glad that students can finally start to enjoy the new facilities for which they have patiently waited. Principal Mr. Dunbar said he appreciated how flexible the students and staff have been during the process and expressed his gratitude to them.

The library is also being improved with renovations of its own! See page 2 for more details on changes, including computers and a new reading room.

Homework load taxes students

By Arjun Malhotra
Staff Writer

A visibly stressed-out student sits in the cafeteria with a foam tray of half-finished pasta and meat sauce accompanied by an untouched salad, a breadstick, and an open carton of chocolate milk. What's left of her lunch sits idly, sharing space on the round sticky table with a more pressing task - her apricot-colored pre-calculus book lies open, waiting for her to complete the assigned problems for her class next period.

Students at Glastonbury High School receive some form of homework in almost every subject on a daily basis. But how much homework do students get per night? How much does it differ from night to night? And is it all really needed?

A hundred GHS students were recently surveyed on the average amount of homework they receive. On Mondays, the average amount of homework is 1.93 hours. On Tuesdays, the average amount of homework is 2.07 hours. On Wednesdays, an average amount of homework is 2.2 hours. On Thursdays, the average amount of homework is 2.23 hours. On Fridays, the number of hours of homework assigned averages 1.8 hours.

These results suggest that the hours of homework assigned daily increase steadily at the beginning of the week, and then peak in the middle of the school week, and finally decrease at the end of the week. When asked if homework helps to do better on quizzes and tests, GHS senior Evan Lassow said, "It depends. CI worksheets help you do better on the quizzes and math homework helps with tests." However, Evan feels that the



majority of homework is just "busywork" and the amount of homework received nightly is "unfair". Senior Shefali Kumar said the amount of homework she gets nightly is "way too much" and only "some of it helps".

Mrs. Barclay, a mathematics teacher at Glastonbury High School, said that she consistently assigns "about 30 minutes of homework" every day of the

school week. When asked if students who complete the homework assignments perform better in class than those who do not, she replied, "Yes, especially on quizzes and tests". When asked if she thinks the homework she assigns affects her student's life outside of school, Mrs. Barclay replied, "No, the student has to learn to adjust, and time management is key."

In the survey conducted at GHS, students were asked if their teachers would adjust the amount of assigned homework if they knew that other teachers were assigning a lot of homework. The results were surprising: 77% of students said that their teachers would not adjust to the overload, to 23% who said that their teachers would adjust.

According to a homework study conducted by Harris Cooper, a professor at Duke University, it's clear that homework is a critical part of the learning process. Cooper also said, "The analysis also showed that too much homework can be counter-productive for students at all levels." Cooper believes that students should be assigned about 10 minutes of homework in each subject in order to reinforce and practice concepts learned that day in class.

After years of conducting intricate surveys and studies on the topic of homework, Cooper says, "The bottom line really is all kids should be doing homework, but the amount and type should vary according to their developmental level and home circumstances."



The end of an era

By Ben Winston
Staff Writer

From the Silver Screens of the 1920s to today's Steven Spielberg, there is one American pastime that has withstood time: going to the movies.

Unfortunately, East Hartford, Connecticut is no longer home to the newest blockbusters. On September 4, 2006, the Showcase Cinemas Movie Theater in East Hartford shut its doors for the last time. The theater opened in 1973, said the Hartford Courant on the day it closed, as Greater Hartford's first multi-screen theater. When it closed, it had grown from four to fourteen auditoriums which could hold 3,800 people.

After the opening of the Showcase Cinemas by Buckland Hills Mall, crowds at the East Hartford Theater started to thin. Many say the older theater decreased in popularity because the Buckland Hills Theater was up-to-date with more screens, including an IMAX one, and comfortable new seats with cup holders - none of which its predecessor had.

However, these factors didn't stop some people

from seeing their movies in East Hartford. "The prices were better, and it wasn't ever crowded," says one student. "You could go to the opening night of a huge movie and easily get tickets." Although fewer customers is one of the main reasons for the theater's downfall, it still gave people incentive to go there instead of the newer theater a few miles away in Manchester.

Several students were sad to see the theater go because they grew up going there. "It sucks that it's closing," exclaimed one, while many other students recounted unforgettable experiences they had at the movie theater.

As for what's to come of the property, the Town of East Hartford has shown the location to many companies, including retail stores and other corporations, said the Hartford Courant on September 12. The theater's location near the highway makes it a prime spot for any business looking for publicity. And since the town is looking to go in a direction other than cinemas, it doesn't look like a happy ending for America's favorite pastime in East Hartford.

INSIDE

The Freshman Perspective.....	pg 3
Fall Sports Midseason.....	pg 4
Drama Club's Fall Musical.....	pg 6
Puzzles.....	pg 7

GHS Library: Almost There

Computers are in, but a new reading room's still to come

By Christopher Snyder
Managing Editor

The GHS library is the latest target for the school's renovation project and has already seen some improvements.

"We're thrilled with the way things are turning out," librarian Mrs. Fecko said, "but there's a long way to go."

The most visible change to the library is the upgrade to the computers. The slower computers of previous years have been replaced with 55 much faster computers, including 30 in a new computer lab classroom.

Mrs. Fecko explained that when the library first added computers in the early 1990s, there were only five, and databases were accessed through CD-ROM discs. Much has changed since those first days.

"I like that we have a ton of computers," remarked senior Christina Yang.

There are a few non-technology changes as well. The soft-cover paperbacks now join the hardcover ones in "the stacks" surrounding the non-fiction books, and a new conference room has also been added. Yet the biggest changes are in what's to come when the temporary wall disappears and

the library expansion is unveiled.

A new room for quiet study, called the Virginia Knox Reading Area, will be added, with high ceilings and recessed lighting. Virginia Knox, who recently passed away, was a



librarian and member of the Glastonbury Free Academy board. The board, which derives from the historical Academy School, is paying several thousands of dollars to furnish the room, including four leather Queen Anne armchairs.

A new library classroom also will be added, and two Online Public Access Catalogs will be installed near

the books to allow students to search the library catalog without having to go back to the computers.

The new expansion is projected to open in late January, which is subject to change.

A final forthcoming change is that the six comfy chairs popular amongst students have been reupholstered and polished. "People will be standing in line to sit here," Mrs. Fecko speculated.

There are still a few rough edges in the older section of the library. The ceiling tiles are still a work in progress, and the air conditioning, while functioning, still requires further adjustment. Mr. Dunbar addressed the latter concern at a Student Council meeting and said that the challenge of cooling such a large building means that not every room can be perfect. He added that "the system is being balanced" for best performance.

Overall, though, the library has definitely shown improvement from previous year's conditions and will only continue to impress. "It's a much better space for students and for learning," Mrs. Fecko concluded.

New Britain Painting A Memorial to 9/11

By Katelin Chow
Arts Editor

September 11, 2006

marks the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. It also commemorates the death of New Britain native Scott O'Brien, who was on the 106th floor to set up a computer software trade show exhibit when the twin towers fell. The last O'Brien's wife and two children heard from him was a telephone call informing them that he was waiting to be rescued.

To honor O'Brien and the devastating attacks on our country, the New Britain

remarks Parrish, a resident of Amherst, Massachusetts.

According to Parrish, his 8 x 18 foot oil painting "resonates with symbolism – the passage of time, loss of love, and the brevity and frailty of life." The fallen father is symbolic of the thousands of people who lost their lives due to the attacks, the blindfolded children symbolize innocence, and the three mourning women represent the loved ones "left behind." Yet, the most poignant symbol of the piece is the two men – Scott and his twin brother – which represent the World Trade Center. The painting is unlike any other 9/



Museum of American Art commissioned the creation of, and has displayed "The Cycle of Terror and Tragedy: September 11, 2001", by Graydon Parrish. "[I] really [painted] it for the people. As an artist, that's why I paint,"

11 image which has become extremely familiar to the world; instead of snapshots of terror, Parrish's image is considered by Jamie Muro of News Channel 8, "an allegory of a changed American landscape".

Record Crowd at "Dance in the Gym;" Homecoming's Next

By Christopher Snyder
Managing Editor

With the music blaring and lights dimmed, students were dancing the night away at "Dance in the Gym" Sept. 15. The dance, though held in the gymnasium, drew a record crowd of 700 students.

"It's great!" said senior Kelly Segar. She and the rest of the field hockey team were celebrating a victory over Farmington and the arrival of the first dance decked out in tutus, fishnet stockings, and silver face paint.

As with most dances, opinions on the DJ and music among students vary widely. Senior Danielle Fearon called the DJ "amazing," while senior Tom Shluger argued that he was "below par." Junior Marilena Brunzo said, "All the good songs were in the first half-hour." Everyone had different ideas on genres to be added to the program though. One criticism voiced several times was the tendency of the DJ to group similarly themed songs together, such as oldies or techno.

"It's just my style," commented the DJ. "If the crowd really gets into the first song, I'll keep it going," but if the crowd isn't responsive, he can switch out of the genre block.

The line-dancing segment got off to a rocky start

and said that he was "pleased with our students." Despite increasing the dance capacity from 600 to 700, many students were left without tickets. Principal Matt Dunbar explained that the enormous crowd "stretched resources and supervision," and it was because of this that attendance had to be capped.

The logistics of the gym presented many difficulties to both students and staff. Many dancers complained that there was too much light during the dance, detracting from the ambience. Neagle explained that a few lights had

to be on for safety reasons, and that some lights were part of banks that couldn't be turned off individually. For instance, most of the lights at the far end of the gym were on one bank. "We used the minimum amount of lights," Neagle said.

According to some dancers, the lights weren't the only issue. For many, just being in the gym was disconcerting. The words "different" and "awkward" were in the air among upperclassmen.

when a dancer tripped over a power cord, bringing the song "Cotton Eye Joe" to a halt. Though the problem was rectified almost immediately, fewer people continued to line dance, choosing instead to simply groove to the songs.

Assistant Principal Dr. Neagle said, regarding 700 people at a dance with relatively no incidents, "I don't know of many other schools that could do this." Student Council advisor Peter Wild concurred

"It feels out of place," said Shluger. Some liked different aspects of the gym. "It's less congested," senior Lisa Yee noted. Senior Dylan Panke appreciated the echo provided by the gym acoustics. Mr. Dunbar added that by using the gym, he "wanted to make sure we had the first dance." The cafeteria's

now open, so this may be the last dance in the gym for a long time. But the gym was no obstacle to a fun night.

Save the Date! Upperclass Homecoming is Saturday 10/28 for juniors and seniors with GHS dates. Underclass Homecoming is Saturday 11/4 for freshmen and sophomores. Both are from 7:30-11pm.



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2006-2007

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Opinion

Freshman Perspective: An Outlook On GHS

What happens when you mix column space, a freshman, and an opinion page? Staff Writer Jesse Rifkin answers this riddle by presenting a unique take on the first weeks of school: the freshman perspective.

It was an interesting first week that the freshman have had here at GHS. I believe I speak for the entire freshman class when I make this statement: "We are the freshman class." Another thing I can say on behalf of us is that it was easy to get lost. So much so that by the end of the first day, I was placed in the lost and found. Right next to my jacket I last saw at Smith in March.

The main reason we kept getting off course is because the school seemed so big. Understand, the members of the freshman class are generally the shortest ones here, so this place seems like a huge monster to us, whereas the other grades view it as merely a

medium-sized monster. There are so many halls, you should need more than one 's' to signify the plural. It should be 'hallssss.' Hey, it's an idea.

The seniors have had to deal with the many blocked off hallways, loud machinery outside the classrooms, and swarms of construction workers for a large part of their time here. We, on the other hand, have to undergo virtually none of that, purely because we were born in 1991, 1992, or 1938 if you stayed back fifty-four times. Is this fair? Well, to paraphrase Bill Clinton, "It depends on what the definition of 'fair' is." In the freshmen's opinion, this is fair. For us.

The renovations have definitely changed some things about our school experience. During September, we were metaphorically dying to see the cafeteria. Was it a square room with rectangular tables, like at Gideon? Or was it a larger square with rectangular tables, like at

continued on page 8

From The Editors

The Hawk's Eye staff is proud to introduce a new era of high school journalism. Over the past several years, the timeliness of the paper has declined. This year, when we sat down to begin layout of this issue, we thought about those past issues. We made a decision – the school newspaper is far too important to let languish.

It's not an easy task to get this newspaper out in a timely fashion. Our staff writers get us great articles, but have to balance their writing with the many other activities and sports that they participate in. The most time-consuming part of the process is layout, where the various articles in a wide range of categories must all fit snugly in the confines of an eight-page paper. Editing, photography, and the actual layout process all must happen in the time between the article deadline and the publication date. Only after a completed layout is shown to our advisors and Mr. Dunbar can we finally go to press. The many steps in this process mean that occasional articles may go

to press after their relevance has faded.

However, we believe we can overcome these challenges. To compensate for some of the holdups, we've streamlined article submission and made other major organizational changes. Among our new staff members this year is a junior new to Glastonbury who has significant experience from his old school's newspaper. We can make the paper better and more relevant.

The sun sets on the old, sluggish Hawk's Eye.



This issue is our starting point. We resolve to publish an issue each month. Our current goal is to get two more out by the end of 2006. It's ambitious to set this in print now, but we will work hard to make this happen.

You can help us too! First, we're always looking for new writers to join us. Listen to the announcements and come to a meeting – no matter what time of the year it is. Also, if you have a press release from your club or activity, a freelance submission, letter to the editor or any other comment, e-mail us at nicastros@glastonburyus.org. We welcome all well-written submissions. Finally, the Hawk's Eye staff will be in full force in the cafeteria one day either this week or next week, collecting suggestions and comments from all of you. Stay tuned.

We're willing to make the commitment to bring new life to the Hawk's Eye. We hope you support us in our new mission.

A Changing Landscape: My Walk Through GHS

By Joseph Fraska
Staff Writer

Remember when there was a cafeteria where you could just walk in without a pass, or go outside and just hang out? You could walk to class with a tray from the cafeteria and eat brownies and drink high-sugared fruit drinks. The café had hot lunch and salad bar with options, and you could buy orange juice for about thirty-five cents. Remember the cramped hallways of the mods and how it seemed to take half an hour to get from there to the gym? Or when you could walk into school in the morning with your thermos full of fresh coffee?

Do you also remember when teachers were all cramped up in a small room with no air-conditioning in ninety degree summer weather, frantically trying to type in grades a day before they were due? There were only about ten computers in each workroom with about fifteen teachers. There was no contract for gym class, and you didn't have to write anything at all. Homeroom (or CI) was pasted into every schedule, and everyone, teachers included, stared at the wall as announcements and words of wisdom were read...every single day. The computer lab used to have one working fan and the computers would take twenty minutes to load, plus an additional twenty minutes to open Internet Explorer.

Well, those days are gone. No longer can you enter the café and exit with cookies, a carton of milk, and napkins in hand. Smuggling food into the classroom has become more and more frequent (if the food

is worth smuggling). The food has changed because of the new laws created to reduce obesity among children. Like you couldn't bring a few of your own Twinkies to school and pig out in a bathroom stall! As if you wouldn't go home at the end of the day and attack your refrigerator due to lack of sweets and fruit juices. The "cafenadium," as some people call it, had thrown people off their regular schedules of quickly grabbing a bite to eat in the café before the bell rings. Back in freshman and sophomore year, I used to get a quick snack and still get to class on time. Halfway through junior year, the school announced that we could no longer do this because it wanted everybody to get to class without any "lingering" in the hallway – plus buying food was only for people with snack/lunch. As the subject of childhood obesity becomes more and more intense around the country, the school district has to make sacrifices so that no one will sue the district if he or she becomes fat.

Of course, the biggest and most obvious change has been the renovations. Yes, the mods that we all loved so much are probably now attached to another school, where the kids there can experience the cool air-conditioning, in both the summer and winter. If you think about the twenty renovated areas, there is a doorway

replacing the beloved mods, which leads to a room that appears to be empty. A row of dim light bulbs over a row of lockers covers the hallway like some sort of guide lighting in a cave. As you walk toward the old science wing, the shiny



white floors leap out at you, as though you haven't seen anything so clean in your life. The new classrooms, with their state-of-the-art projecting systems and ultra-technological white boards (dry erase marker and eraser included) assist teachers in spreading their wisdom to the class, plus allow for the occasional e-mail check while everyone's taking a test.

In the corner of that very same hallway resides the nurses and their cozy little office for the sick and injured. After being given an icepack from the nurses office for your headache, you can walk toward the new A wing with the decision to take the big, spacious staircase to your left, or the small staircase to your right, where you have to wait

for the people coming down, so you can go up. This adventure can easily overload the brain. Deciding to go to the right, and staying on the first floor, you walk toward the new lobby area with the security guard sitting at the enormous desk as though he hasn't seen a human being all day. Finally you come back as you've completed a circle around the school and you see the familiar main staircase. Known for its chaos and pandemonium and dead stand stills, the main stairway is something that you want to avoid at all costs. But as our school is changing, we must all make sacrifices and learn to accept that we have to get some exercise in order to get to the nearest bathroom.

With all this talk about change, it would be inappropriate to not talk about the things that haven't, and may never change in this school. The librarians, the Queens of the rulebook, don't put up with any "funny business" and will send you on your way if you try to convince them otherwise. One librarian sums it up, as she said to a group of talking students, "...the cafeteria is your fate." Yes, people, these ladies mean business, and that's something you have to expect to never change. Another thing that will probably never change is the wide array of teachers we have in this school. I'm not talking about English to Mandarin to French to

Geometry to Business, etc., etc.; I'm talking about the teachers that will let you eat your chip sandwich, and the teachers that won't let you chew a piece of gum. When you're in the halls, it's the principal and the school's rules, but when you're in the classroom, the teachers' rules apply. Different teachers will always approach their policies different ways, and this will never change.

Of course we all noticed the physical changes and the rule changes, but has anyone noticed any other change in our school in the last four years? One thing for sure is that attitude has certainly changed in the students toward teachers, property, etc. Sure, when I was a freshman, there was a lot of trash and the occasional teacher-student arguments, but maybe I've become more aware, or maybe it's because this problem really is getting bigger. It seems like with our society changing its mind, set on "individualism" and "free-thinking", kids seem to be more against certain ideas, even more so than in the sixties era. Sure they want to be themselves without a teacher or a Librarian telling them, well, the rules. Sure, nobody has the strong desire to be in school, and they'd rather be somewhere else. But why make school worse by getting yourself into trouble that is completely unnecessary? It's seven or eight hours a day, and after that, the school really doesn't care. So is it the construction that gets to people's heads, or is this "change in society and our culture" that's changed people's perspectives? The question is: do you remember when...?

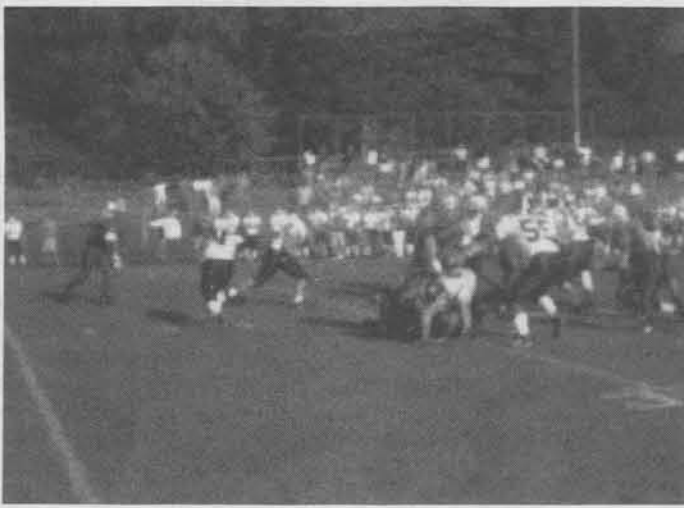
SPORTS

Fall Sports Midseason Report

By Ben Winston
Parag Bhuv
Srinivas Thangada
Staff Writers

Football

Over the last few years, the Varsity Football team has been on an upswing, and this year is no exception. Captains John Pitkin, Craig Zevin, and Dave Laplaca, along with Seniors Mike Goulet, John Seigle, Allen Senechal, Charlie Vance, and Liam O'Donnell, are hoping to not only break last year's 7-3 record, but also lead the team to the playoffs. Out of their ten-game season, the team's toughest competitors will be Southington and New Britain, both of which have made the playoffs multiple times in recent years. Regardless of how they are playing, the team grabbed a piece of GHS history this year with the first ever home game under-the-lights, played Friday, September 29. They cruised through the game with a win of 40-12. The next home game is October 21 against New Britain at 2 P.M.



Girls' Swimming

The Girls' Swimming and Diving team is shaping up to have another stellar season this year. Coming off last year's 13-0 record, Senior Captains Carol Lee and Casey McKone, along with Seniors Lizzie Blake, Gabby Low, Rachel Borecky, and Jess Estanislau, plan to sweep their season again this year. Although Glastonbury is favored to win its division, as it has in years past, the girls will find some tough competition this year from Amity and Cheshire, the latter of which has been ranked number one in the state of Connecticut. The first meet was the North Relays, hosted this year by Glastonbury High School, featuring all the teams from the CCC North Division, including E.O. Smith, East Hartford, Southington, and Manchester. Their record as of now is 4-0. Their next meet will be at home against Maloney on October 17 at 4 P.M.

Girls' Cross Country

The expectations are high this year for the Girls' Cross Country team. Led by Captains Jamie Olson, Kristen Mitchell, Meghan Buckles, and Seniors

Brittany Burke and Danielle Lyons, the team hopes to hold on to its great reputation in the months ahead. Recently, the team was ranked number one in the state, an honor that the girls plan to hold up as their season progresses. This year, they will run against competitors such as Conard, Simsbury, and Lyman Memorial, and will hopefully be sending a few runners to some championship meets in mid-November. The season started up on September 12, and the girls ran their first home meet against Manchester and New Britain on Tuesday, September 19, at J.B. Williams. Their record is 4-0 and their next meet will be the CCC Meet North and South on October 19 at 3:45 P.M.

Boys' Cross Country

The Boys' Cross Country is off to another promising season with a diverse and talented team with Robbie Dugger, Donn Cabral, Chris Klobedanz, and James Llamas as the team captains. Head coach Dr. Howard Breinan confidently stated, "This is the best team in Glastonbury history, without a

doubt." Some tough opponents to look out for in this coming season include Xavier, Danbury, and Milford; however, Coach Breinan believes that this season is a promising one. Perhaps their hardest meet in the conference was against Simsbury on October 10, but even there, they pulled off a victory. Some names to look out for? Coach Breinan noted that James Llamas could be a major factor, as well as Ian Hedges, who he said "is sure to bring surprises." Both James and Ian are hard working



Clockwise from above: The scoreboard looks over an intense soccer match; a ref looks on as a football play progresses; a swimmer flies through the water; more football in progress.

doubt." Some tough opponents to look out for in this coming season include Xavier, Danbury, and Milford; however, Coach Breinan believes that this season is

After October 10, the team is 7-1.

off a not-so-great record last year, Seniors Pam Fischer, Lydia Johnson, Andrea Amado, and



Girls' Volleyball

The Girls' Volleyball Team is looking to have a very promising season. After coming

Ashley Procaccini plan to lead the girls to victory in the upcoming season. There are some tough opponents in the distance, though, among them Maloney, New Britain, Bristol Eastern, South Windsor, and Southington, but the girls are confident in their skill as a team. The season started off on September 12 with a match against Wethersfield. The team's present record is 9-3 as of October 12, with six games remaining.

Crew

Crew has begun another great season, with Captains Tom Shluger and Zach Moses for boys, and Kayla Armando and Lauren Jewett for girls feeling very enthusiastic about the start of the new season. The team's main concerns as far as rivals go for this season are Brunswick Academy and their main rival Simsbury. However,

continued on page 5

SPORTS

Six Sports, Substantial Spirit



Above, the girl's soccer team fights for the ball.

continued from page 4

both rivals will not be a huge issue because this year, they have a strong, deep team that will surely beat Simsbury and Brunswick Academy. When asked about rising stars, Shluger named Dan O'Brien and Dan Harkins, adding, "Their consistent improvement since the spring season is impressive, and their work ethic and intensity is above and beyond the other rowers." In addition,

many new sophomores have definitely added significant depth to the team. The boys and girls first and only home regatta was last Saturday, October 14, at the Seaboard Marina against Stonington, Simsbury, Farmington, and Xavier. The girls will also be racing at the Head of the Charles in Boston, a huge regatta which is acknowledged by many across the country.

Boys' Varsity Soccer

Boys' varsity soccer is working hard to improve themselves on a daily basis, according to head coach Mark Landers. Since the team basically lost most of its defense this year, it's been working hard to replace and make that a focal point. But according to Landers, the team is still "a little bit ahead of last year." New to the team for this year is

to improve everyday - we want to get better... and hopefully see where we are in the end. We don't talk about winning league titles; we just want to improve our team everyday."

Girls' Varsity Soccer

The girls' varsity soccer team is ready for a great season. Coaching this year's team are head coach Tom McKenna and assistant coach Brenda Gregorski. Captains this year are Danielle

man Shannon Usher. According to Courtemanche, the team was disappointed with its performance last year, mainly because it had a lot of talent, but it wasn't applied. McKenna outlined the three goals for this year's team: make it to state tournament, be first in conference, and be first in league. McKenna also emphasized how "the seniors did a great job adjusting to new roles" and how he's ready for a "positive season and meeting

For scores, schedules, directions to away games, and more... visit Tomahawks Online - the official website of GHS!
www.tomahawks.org and click on "Athletics"

assistant coach Mr. Cameron. The team's underclassmen include eight sophomores and one freshman, which is somewhat different from past seasons. The captains this year are seniors Matt Stauble and Sean Kaukus. Other senior players this year are Eric Fredette, Ian Serrao, Sperry Morway, Pat Gority, Kyle Constantine, Matt Simon, and more. As for goals for the team, Landers explained, "Our goal is

Courtemanche, Allison Wright, and Claire Laudone. Despite losing nine seniors from last year's team including the "Fab 5," this year's team boasts 11 seniors. Notable players this year include Lauren Alvarez who scored four or five goals in the first three games, and Caitlyn Hinchey who has done a superb job goalkeeping. Sophomores stepping it up this year are Erika Robbins, Alex Rotondo, and Ashley Berent, along with fresh-

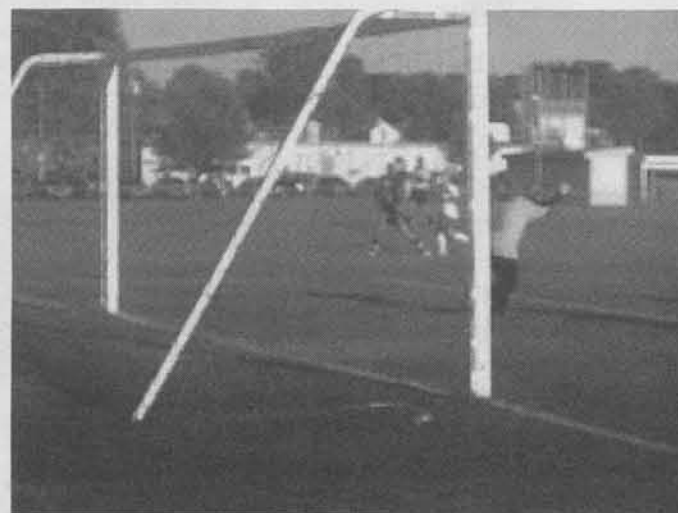
the three goals." Courtemanche summed this year's spirit by saying, "Everyone should come to our games... we want lots of fans this year."

Are you a GHS sports fan? The Hawk's Eye is always looking for writers to cover some of our school's numerous sports teams. Come to a Hawk's Eye meeting or contact Sports Editor Andy Platt.



Sports Midseason: Photo Roundup

Clockwise from right: The soccer team valiently defends its goal; swimmers prepare for a race; the marching band supports the football team; girl's swimmers ready to dive.



Arts and Entertainment

Book Review: *A Time for Dancing*

By Mary Vallo
Staff Writer

"I began to dance for my soul. It wanted no audience, no approval, no applause. It wanted only itself. It was me and the ocean and the movement and the song — one. Time was suspended. I had no world outside the moments; no needs, no cares, no reality except the dance. I danced until I came to the end, then stopped. For a moment after, I couldn't tell where I was, or why, but I knew myself and I understood how I was connected to the world." — Davida Wills Hurwin

Julie and Samantha are best friends. They know each other's secrets, dreams, and thoughts. They share everything, from laughs, to opinions, to favorite hobbies. Their relationship seems perfect — until Julie finds out that she's sick. At first, it's a nagging pain in her back. Then, she can't participate in dance class because her whole body aches. After visits to doctor after doctor, one finally breaks the terrible news: Julie has cancer. Suddenly, Sam can't share

everything with her "One and Only" any longer. Julie has to face this fact alone. In the early days of her sickness, family, friends, and Julie herself are full of hope. "Hey," Sam remarks with optimism, "Jules [is] young, strong, and a fighter... So — it [will] be a few hard months and then everything [will] be okay. We [can] get back to normal... We [are] together in this world, and nothing [can] change that, ever." But as the cancer slowly takes over Julie's body, her future begins to look bleak. Chemotherapy sessions drain more and more of her energy as her hair falls out, friends other than Sam gradually lose contact, and she has to miss school almost daily. But even more painful than the chemotherapy treatment or the loss of her normal life is the fact that dancing — Julie's passion — is nearly impossible in her weak, fragile condition. "The

freedom of moving without pain, the confidence of a conditioned, disciplined body, the trust in my mind to

until you lose it. People are right."

As Julie becomes more and more disconnected with her former life, she embarks on her "solo journey," what she calls her solitary battle with cancer. And she begins to consider what would happen if that battle became a losing one.

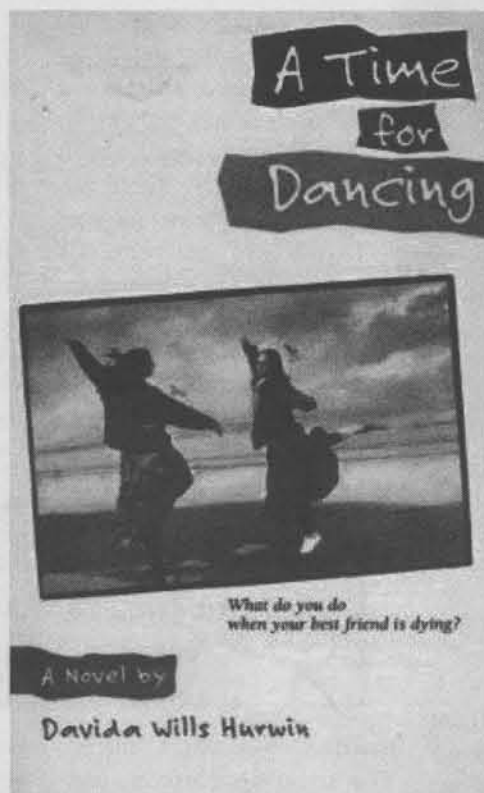
A Time for Dancing is an exceptional work of fiction. The fact that the book is fiction is a miracle itself because it is written so realistically. From Hurwin's astounding ability to relate to teenagers to the realism of each stage of the characters' grief, I felt as if the story and its characters were factual.

Another interesting aspect of the novel is that it's written with each chapter alternating between the points of view of Sam and Julie. With this technique, the reader is able to empathize and connect with the

perspective of each girl. Without ever having faced death before, I realized what it must be like by reading Julie's chapters. Similarly, I understood the pain associated with losing a close friend by reading Sam's standpoint.

Finally, the book's symbolism makes it even more powerful. The author uses dancing to represent death by showing how dying is a completely individual experience. Other people support Julie while she comes to the end of her life, and they "dance" by her side, but in the end, she has to dance alone. The quote at the beginning embodies this concept. At first glance, it is solely a snapshot of Julie dancing, but a closer reading reveals that it is also a metaphor for her death.

A Time for Dancing is a novel everyone should read. Its message, fantastic writing, and symbolism are sure to move all readers — young and old, female or male. It offers a deeper understanding of what people facing death experience, and most importantly, how valuable every minute of life is.



Drama's Fall Musical Returns with *Thoroughly Modern Millie*

By Mimi Hong
Staff Writer

The GHS Drama Club is currently engaged in the production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Set in New York's roarin' twenties, Millie, played by junior Taylor Noble, is a girl from Kansas who dreams of living the modern life of a high-flying flapper.

However, doing so becomes quite a problem. Millie's first day in New York results in the loss of her valuable life savings, purse, shoe, and innocence. Millie meets Jimmy (junior Logan George), a quick-talking, fast-walking New Yorker. He soon directs her to Mrs. Meer's (senior Mimi Hong) hotel for destitute actresses. There Millie comes across the Priscilla Girls and Mrs. Meer's henchmen. Soon after her arrival, she meets Miss

Later, Millie and her new friends meet up with Jimmy to celebrate Millie's first job. Jimmy then takes the motley

activities, like attending ball games.

All seems to be going well until girls begin to disappear from Mrs. Meer's hotel. Could somebody possibly be selling the vanished girls into slavery for profit? See the show November 10, 11, 17 and 18 to find out!

All in all, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is a feel good show with fun characters and a stellar and talented cast. It won't disappoint! If you ever wanted to see a light comedy with shades of romance set in a time before ours, this is the musical



group around the city, introducing them to the star of all stars, Muzzy (senior Grace Goodrich). The crew also partakes in less glamorous

for you.

One way to get tickets is the week before opening night, during lunches in the cafe.

Hawk's Eye on the Movies: *The Guardian*

By Libby Leydon
Staff Writer

and sacrifice from his mentor and guardian, Randall, when a crisis arises.

This movie was one of the best movies I have seen in a long time. For the past few weeks I was starting to think that all of the good movies had disappeared, but this movie has it all — drama, comedy, and

After losing his crew in a deadly crash, legendary rescue swimmer, Ben Randall (Kevin Costner) is forced to teach "A" school, a top of the line training program for Coast Guard rescue swimmers. While there, he meets young, cocky swim champion Jake Fisher (Ashton Kutcher), who wants nothing more than to beat the records that Randall made. Through

long and grueling training, and riveting tension between the two talented men, Ben helps mold the ambitious Jake into one of the best rescue swimmers of the Coast Guard. After graduating from the academy, Fisher follows Randall back to Alaska, where they take on the dangers of the Bering Sea. And in his first solo mission, Jake learns heroism

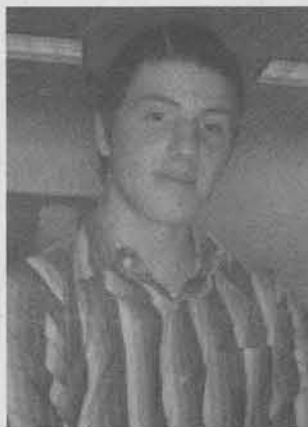
even romance. Viewers will be on the edge of their entire seats the entire time. The acting was also strong. Kevin Costner did an amazing job portraying his character and taking on the role of a top Coast Guard

swimmer. Ashton Kutcher also did a phenomenal job in what I believe is his best performance thus far. Most of us are used to seeing Kutcher in a dorky comedy, but he broke that mold, showing that he does indeed have talent. So if you are looking for a movie to see, and want to put your \$10 dollars to good use, go check out *The Guardian*.



The Roving Reporter

“What was your favorite part of summer '06?”



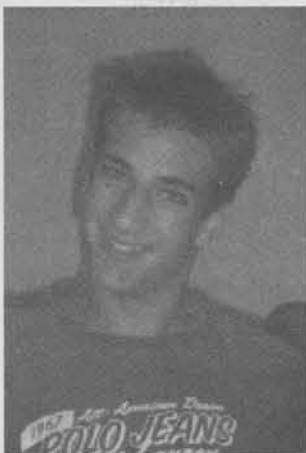
“Missing school.”
--Andy O'Rourke, '08



“Reading trashy magazines.”
--Ms. Godin



“Volunteering for the Audobon society.”
--Jon Harrington, '07



“Going clubbing in Boston”
--Chris Dimoulas, '07



“Trying the new vanilla frosty at Wendy's.”
--Caitlin Croswell, '07



“Getting caught in a sprinkler at a golf course.”
--Annette Kim, '07

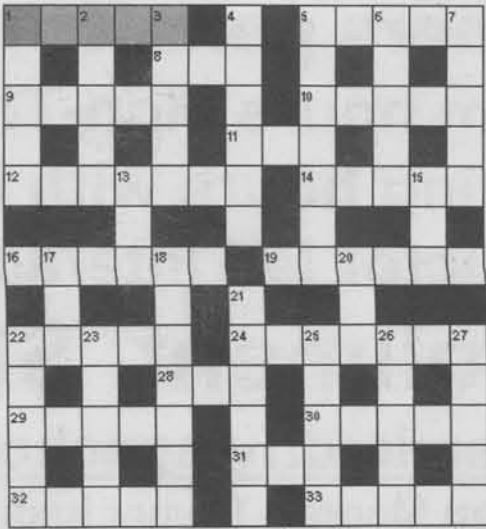
Puzzles

	9		4			5	6	
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	8	5		4	6	2		3
4		3		1	7		9	
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8	7			6	9		2	
	2		1			9	3	
3		7	6				4	2
	4		3			7		1

Solutions in
Next Issue!!

- Across
- 1. clothing
 - 5. water mammal
 - 8. meadow
 - 9. greek letter
 - 10. blow up
 - 11. evergreen
 - 12. expensive glass
 - 14. regions
 - 16. Italian city
 - 19. effortless
 - 22. spice
 - 24. landing site
 - 28. prompt
 - 29. sound
 - 30. religious sects
 - 31. grand prix circuit
 - 32. beg
 - 33. vegetables



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- Down
- impassive .1
 - american car .2
 - angle .3
 - lottery .4
 - protective clothing .5
 - ceasefire .6
 - roster of names .7
 - snow runner .13
 - girl's name .15
 - flightless bird .17
 - agreement .18
 - further education .20
 - tacky .21
 - fasten .22
 - gnat .23
 - within your area .25
 - heartbeat .26
 - tables .27

Freshman Perspective

continued from page 3

Smith? The location change to the gym was a problem for the school administration. Because if you move the cafeteria to the gym, and the gym moves outside, where does the outside go? This was a major dilemma for Mr. Dunbar.

In response to the demand from freshmen about an assembly on making high school count, we had an assembly called "Making High School Count." After Dr. Neagle's highly anticipated introduction speech, on came the second speaker: the guy who announces the winning numbers on television for the Massachusetts state lottery. Is this how our grade point average is determined? They

just take a bunch of ping pong balls in four separate containers and pull them out at random? Fortunately, the assembly provided good information to freshmen. Notably: "Record yourself reading your notes onto your iPod, then listen to it on the bus while pretending to rock out."

This will be the last time that we freshmen enter a new school in Glastonbury, until they build Glastonbury University. But until then, let's just make the best of our four years here at GHS. "GHS", as I was recently informed, is *not* pronounced phonetically, but letter by letter. This proves that one is always learning new things, as I have been. Hopefully the freshmen have been too, and will continue to do during our four years here. Because that is the point of school, right? Learning? Anybody?

Have you ever had a question for our school administration?

This is a big school. This means that there's quite a lot happening at any given moment. But what to do if you have a question about something?

Do you have a question about the renovations? Confused by the new graduation performance standards? Whether it's activity buses or CAPT testing, you have ques-

tions. They should be answered, and starting next issue, we're going to get you those answers. It's the "Ask an Admin" column, inspired by an old feature on the school website dating back to Dr. Bookman's time as principal.

Submit your questions via e-mail at nicastros@glastonburyus.org

(subject line: "Ask an Admin"), or write it down and submit it to Managing Editor Christopher Snyder. We'll take your questions and ask Mr. Dunbar, Ms. Adamson, Ms. Jarvis, Dr. Neagle, or Dr. Nocera, depending on who can best answer your question. And you'll have your answer, in the next issue! Stay tuned for "Ask an Admin!"

The State's New Soda Ban: What You Need To Know

What You Need To Know is a new feature for Hawk's Eye, giving you the bullet-point facts on issues affecting you. This article is brought to you by the editorial staff.

This past spring, the Connecticut General Assembly passed a new law restricting the sale of soda and certain foods in schools. While some parts of the law are straightforward, others can be confusing. Here's everything you need to know about the new restrictions:

* The law restricts the sale by the school of beverages that aren't water, juice, or milk, and has further regulations regarding sugar content. It also regulates food items based on new Connecticut nutrition standards.

* The law doesn't actually ban these items from school – you can still bring them in with your lunch. They simply aren't sold in the cafeteria.

* Students aren't the only ones affected by the regulations. The cafeteria no longer brews coffee for the teachers either.



Looking for coffee in the cafeteria? You may have to look elsewhere, due to new state regulations.

And some teachers, especially the Civics/Current Issues teaching staff, don't drink coffee in front of their students at all.

* The regulations on food were not mandatory for all schools. However, schools that do not comply with the nutrition

restrictions have to forfeit the state reimbursement for school lunch. Schools that accept the restrictions receive an extra ten cents for every school lunch they serve. (The beverage restrictions are mandatory for all schools.)

* The law applies to all food and beverage sales in the cafeteria, the School Store, and any vending machines.

* Even fundraising is affected – any food or beverages that are sold in school for fundraising activities must comply with the law. This could mean that Halloween-o-Grains and Valentine's Day Carnations & Candy will have to replace the edible components of their holiday messages.

* Concession stands, such as those at football games, are exempt because they are "in connection with a school-sponsored event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend," to quote the law.

Hawk's Eye Top 10: Why You Should Become A Staff Writer Right Now!

The Hawk's Eye loves staff writers. Whether they share the latest news from Drama Club, craft a review of an interesting novel, or keep tabs on the many sports teams, they're the ones that make this paper worth reading. Here's the top 10 reasons why you should join the Hawk's Eye staff:

10. Keep Walt out of trouble.
9. Colleges just love newspaper writers.
8. Like taking pictures? We like printing pictures!
7. Sometimes at meetings, there's even food!

6. Like to draw? We take editorial cartoons and news-relevant drawings too.

5. Help us keep you and your friends informed about all that goes on at GHS.

4. Your friends and family will be impressed to read what you write.

3. Mr. Nicastro and Mr. Thorn will be forever grateful.

2. Writing articles isn't as much of a time commitment as you're afraid of.

1. The more you write, the more we publish, the more you enjoy!

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